

Big asteroid buzzes past Earth and will again in 19 years

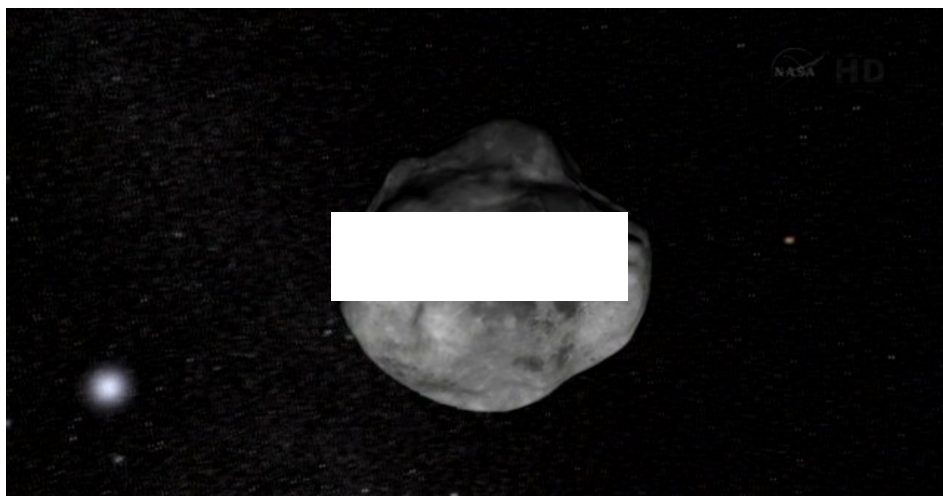
By Ben Brumfield, CNN

updated 4:42 PM EDT, Fri October 18, 2013 | Filed under: **Innovations**

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See how close asteroid came to Earth

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

In September, a large asteroid passed close by our planet

The asteroid, 2013 TV135, was discovered this month

NASA says there is very little chance of it posing a threat to Earth

Someday a massive asteroid will wreak havoc on Earth, but that is likely millions of years away

(CNN) -- One of the most dangerous asteroids on record **zipped close by Earth** last month.

It made headlines on Thursday, when reports said that there's a chance it could strike our planet in less than 20 years. Such a collision could unleash a force as powerful as a couple of thousand atomic bombs.

But NASA was quick to calm nerves and point out some very good news. The most dangerous known asteroids don't really pose much of a threat. And there are very few of them.

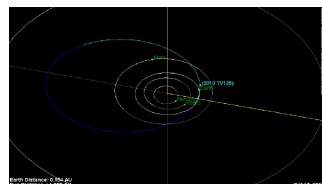
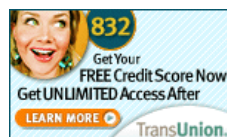
Also, the chances that this one, which the **Ukrainian astronomers who discovered it** named 2013 TV135, will collide with Earth are extremely slim, NASA said in a statement it called "a reality check."

The space agency is 99.998% certain that when it whooshes back around the planet in 2032, it will simply sail past us again.

The probability of it striking Earth currently stands at 1:63,000, and even those odds are fading fast, as scientists find out more about the asteroid.

"This is a relatively new discovery," said Don Yeomans, manager of NASA's NEO Program. "With more observations, I fully expect we will be able to significantly reduce, or rule out entirely, any impact probability for the foreseeable future."

2013 TV135 was discovered on October 8, while NASA was closed during the government shutdown. And already it looks to soon be joining the ranks of the more than 10,000 known near-Earth objects that are virtually certain to cause us no harm.



Photos: All about asteroids

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Part of complete coverage on Asteroids

Big asteroid buzzes past Earth

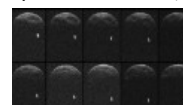
updated 4:42 PM EDT, Fri October 18, 2013



One of the most dangerous asteroids on record zipped close by Earth in September.

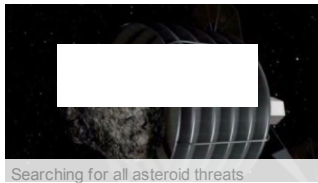
Large asteroid safely zips past Earth, dragging its moon along

updated 11:32 AM EDT, Sun June 2, 2013



The world is OK -- at least this time -- and scientists are psyched.

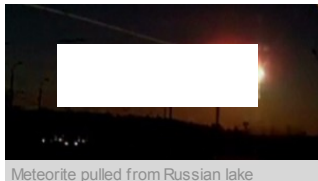
While you were working: An asteroid



Searching for all asteroid threats



NASA asks public to hunt asteroids



Meteorite pulled from Russian lake

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But until then, it has the distinction of having a danger rating of 1 out of a possible 10 on the [Torino Impact Hazard Scale](#), the system that gauges the danger of impact destruction by asteroids.

The 1 rating means that it poses "no unusual level of danger." There is "no cause for public attention or concern."

Almost all other asteroids that scientists have discovered rank a 0 on the scale. There is another asteroid with a danger rating of 1. And it, too, is no cause for alarm, NASA says.

September's close pass

The close pass 2013 TV135 made on September 16 was not a near miss. At a distance of 4.2 million miles as it flew by, it was more than 15 times as far away from Earth as the moon.

That pales by compare to [the closest shave the Earth got from an asteroid](#) of considerable size in recorded history.

On February 15 this year, asteroid 2012 DA14, which measured 150 feet wide, slipped in below the moon's orbit and squeaked by our planet just 17,200 miles from its surface.

The one that passed by in September is big, with a diameter of 1,300 feet. That's the size of four football fields, but it does not quite make it an Earth crusher.

An asteroid needs to be at least twice as large to advance into that league.

"We believe anything larger than one to two kilometers (about 0.6 to 1.2 miles) could have worldwide effects," NASA said in a statement.

Russian divers find huge suspected meteorite chunk

Near passes daily

Two behemoths in that size range will pass by planet Earth in the next three months at similar distances as 2013 TV135. NASA says that neither will hit us.

Near asteroid passes are common. [They pretty much occur daily](#), if not two or three times a day, NASA says.

They come, and they go, and they leave the Earth in peace.

In addition, particles from space bombard our planet every minute -- at a rate of 100 tons a day, NASA says.

You eat them; you drink them; you breathe them. Much of you and everything else on Earth contains them.

Distant catastrophe

Though it seems Earth is safe for now, there is such a thing as a doomsday asteroid.

Scientists say it is likely that the impact of an asteroid over six miles wide wiped out dinosaurs along with much of the life on Earth 65 million years ago.

More like it will come, NASA says.

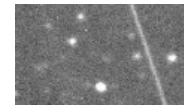
But they only turn up once every "few million years."

just flew by

updated 11:25 PM EST, Fri February 15, 2013



It was hardly a doomsday event, but at 2:24 p.m. ET, an asteroid came pretty close to Earth.

What would happen if asteroid hit?

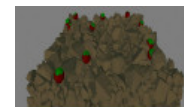
Dr. Bruce Betts of the Planetary Society, the world's largest space interest group, says this could be more common than most might think.

Asteroid and meteor: Connected?

The meteorite in Russia and the asteroid approaching are "completely unrelated," according to NASA. The trajectory of the meteorite differs substantially from asteroid 2012 DA14.

Why asteroids don't surprise us anymore

Don Yeomans spends his days monitoring the thousands of asteroids and comets swirling around the solar system, making sure that none of the bigger ones are on a collision course with Earth.

How to land on an asteroid

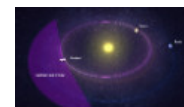
In the future, scientists want to be able to send spacecraft to study asteroids such as the one that will approach the Earth on Friday. A concept for these landers may look familiar to anyone who grew up in the 1970s.

So, about that asteroid near Earth ...

updated 5:41 AM EST, Fri February 8, 2013



Don't consider this a countdown to doomsday, but on February 15 an asteroid is going to come pretty close to Earth.

Telescope aims to head off asteroid

The nonprofit B612 Foundation plans to raise money to build an infrared space telescope that would find and track asteroids with enough accuracy to see if they would collide with Earth.

Photos: All about asteroids

updated 1:33 PM EDT, Fri October 18, 2013



Scientists estimate there are tens of thousands of asteroids. Click through our gallery of asteroids to learn more.

Saving the earth from asteroids

updated 11:25 AM EST, Wed February 13, 2013



Former NASA astronaut Ed Lu is building a space telescope to detect asteroids that could hit earth in our lifetime.

Asteroid mining venture unveiled

updated 6:26 AM EST, Fri January 25, 2013

That may give humanity some time to find a way of dealing with it.

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'Fireflies' to scope out space rocks for mining

updated 5:56 PM EST, Thu January 24, 2013



Space, it has been said, is big. Really big. So how do we mine its potential?

Don't count 'doomsday asteroid' out yet

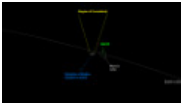
updated 8:46 AM EST, Thu January 24, 2013



Look up at our nearest neighbor, the moon, and you'll see stark evidence of the dangerous neighborhood we live in. The Man in the Moon was sculpted by large-scale events, including many meteor and asteroid impacts.

Phew! Asteroid to miss Earth in 2040, NASA says

updated 5:12 AM EST, Mon December 24, 2012



On a day when global doomsday predictions failed to pan out, NASA had more good news for the Earth: An asteroid feared to be on a collision course with our planet no longer poses a threat.

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PiersMorganStoleMyGrill • a day ago

In 2032, Morgan Freeman will be our new president and will do what it takes to save us!

547 14 Reply Share



Nigilist Foma PiersMorganStoleMyGrill • a day ago

he will send bruce willis to space

311 6 Reply Share



Norwegian American Nigilist Foma • a day ago

Most of Hollywood already lives in space...

379 9 Reply Share



Bill the Cat Norwegian American • a day ago

Like in all the films, the asteroid hits America.

Unaffected, the rest of the world, finally lives in peace and, annually celebrate in memory of the event.

It's a make feel-good film.

227 21 Reply Share

Earth

Samsung

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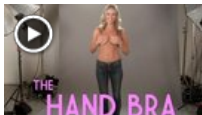
See the picture that sparked online fury



Eleven missing in bridge collapse



Ke\$ha's crotch got shocked on stage



Funny or Die: Rebecca Romijn's 'hand bra'

- Ahmed Khalil

Bill the Cat • 20 hours ago

If an asteroid actually hit Earth, the effects would be devastating to the entire world no matter where it would hit first....

52 ^ | 6 v Reply Share >
- Bill the Cat

Ahmed Khalil • 20 hours ago

You're not one of the screen-writers are you, because if you are, Michael Bay & Jerry Bruckheimer have so fired your butt.

53 ^ | 2 v Reply Share >
- SiriusAntares

Bill the Cat • 18 hours ago

We would be pleased to divert this asteroid for a small fee. All we require is one million of your most beautiful women.

37 ^ | v Reply Share >
- djjimi

SiriusAntares • 18 hours ago

A Muslim terrorist would do it for 73, and they don't even have to be beautiful.

48 ^ | v Reply Share >
- David

djjimi • 17 hours ago

I heard goats are ok as payment too, as long as they are virgin goats.

48 ^ | 1 v Reply Share >
- advocatus diaboli

David • 11 hours ago

Hairy is better they see to think.

^ | v Reply Share >
- Trust me, I'm the Doctor

djjimi • 16 hours ago

72, stooge. It's 72.

11 ^ | v Reply Share >
- Diana Horton

Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 16 hours ago

he threw one in there as a tip. (p)

21 ^ | v Reply Share >
- mulehead

Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 14 hours ago

.....and 70 of them are male.....

11 ^ | v Reply Share >
- Sander Barber

mulehead • 12 hours ago

So, Paradise is a Comic Book Convention?

4 ^ | v Reply Share >
- EastPier

djjimi • 17 hours ago

I actually fell off my chair laughing, bravo!

9 ^ | v Reply Share >
- Uncle Zeke

djjimi • 16 hours ago

sad truth, they prolly didn't think to ask if the virgins were male or female... When you deal with the Devil you have to ask those little questions that mean so much...

5 ^ | v Reply Share >
- BEST Antivirus Android

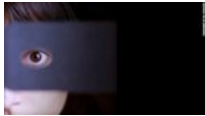
Uncle Zeke • 11 hours ago

they should first ask the question, but where in the holy book and

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nadiths does it mention that the internet will be created....


^ | v Reply Share ›

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where it talks about gore


1 ^ | v Reply Share ›

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Ancient aliens already took most of the beautiful women. Which explains a lot.


7 ^ | 1 v Reply Share ›

 **Diana Horton** →Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 16 hours ago
it explains nothing, except you have not met one. it might have to do with the negative way you come off. (p)


2 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **BEST Antivirus Android** →Diana Horton • 11 hours ago
yur right, negativity turns em into losers and they fail to see the beauty around them, or they at home playing on the computer too much


^ | v Reply Share ›

 **Diana Horton** →Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 16 hours ago
there are still, plenty of beautiful women left on this earth. as long as they still have their teeth. lol (p)


1 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **BEST Antivirus Android** →Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 11 hours ago
maybe you need to get out more, hint they all usually show up in big city bars after 11pm.....


^ | v Reply Share ›

 **Joe Mauro** →Trust me, I'm the Doctor • 15 hours ago
did they land in west virginia?


^ | v Reply Share ›

 **SiriusAntares** →Joe Mauro • 14 hours ago
Maybe, but I would have to check the records. I recall the biggest operation was in Victorville, California.


1 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **Big Daddy** →SiriusAntares • 14 hours ago
Great Start with Hollywood and clean house don't forget to take Miley and Taylor Swift with ya !!


2 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **Aud** →SiriusAntares • 15 hours ago
Would you take the Kardashians?

2 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **SiriusAntares** →Aud • 15 hours ago
No, we have enough trouble.

12 ^ | v Reply Share ›

 **JoeOvercoat** →SiriusAntares • 17 hours ago
Goina bv your icon. we might be able to work something out as a

Coming by your head, it might be able to turn something out as a win-win, for everyone involved.

2 ^ | v Reply Share ›



Diana Horton ↗SiriusAntares • 16 hours ago

Imao, is that all? piece of cake. (p)

1 ^ | v Reply Share ›



Noneya ↗Bill the Cat • 16 hours ago

If a sizable asteroid hit the earth, it would expel vaporized rock around the earth at 500 mph... Doesn't take a Hollywood writer to know that would be bad.

4 ^ | v Reply Share ›



Trust me, I'm the Doctor ↗Noneya • 16 hours ago

EXACTLY 500 mph? Not 507 mph? Are you sure?

3 ^ | v Reply Share ›



RealPerson ↗Noneya • 5 hours ago

Vaporized like gone? Nothing left but Vapor? around and around the earth, or just a little ways till gravity pulled it down?

^ | v Reply Share ›



cjacja ↗Noneya • 10 hours ago

500 mph? Really? At that speed nothing at all would happen. It would be safe to watch it fall from only a mile or so away. Airplanes fly faster then 500 mph.

You missed a few decimal places, 50,000 miles per hour is not out of the question, you were off by about a factor of 1000 or so.

^ | v Reply Share ›



SSchus87 ↗cjacja • 9 hours ago

That is only a factor of 100. $500 \times 1000 = 500,000$, not 50,000.

Sucks when your correction needs to be corrected, huh?

^ | v Reply Share ›



Foulkeblows ↗SSchus87 • 8 hours ago

If cjacja is from the U.S., he still gets full credit for trying. Math is not our country's strong suit.

^ | v Reply Share ›



Sander Barber ↗Bill the Cat • 12 hours ago

Look up Krakatoa. One Volcano. On ONE small island. It managed to create a measurable temperature shift for a number of years.

1 ^ | v Reply Share ›



fedupwiththefedup ↗Ahmed Khalil • 19 hours ago

It would depend on the size, but essentially yes, you are correct. I would recommend reading a book called Lucifer's Hammer, an interesting fictitious novel about an asteroid strike on Earth and the aftermath for the people who survived.


18 ^ | v Reply Share ›




Tim Salmon ↗fedupwiththefedup • 18 hours ago




Read the book; great one!


5 ^ | v Reply Share ›

- 




Reasontospeak  • 16 hours ago


Fantastic book and although fiction entirely believable.
Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle are great writers.

3  |  Reply Share ›
- 




Sander Barber  • 12 hours ago


Jerry Pournelle, Larry Niven. Nice to see someone else still appreciates the apocalyptic classics.

1  |  Reply Share ›
- 




Victoria Barton  • 14 hours ago


loved that book Lucifers hammer.Such a good book.

1  |  Reply Share ›
- 




Foulkeblows  • 8 hours ago


Why do you call it "fictitious"? Maybe before it's time, but not necessarily fictitious.

 |  Reply Share ›
- 




Trust me, I'm the Doctor  • 16 hours ago


Fiction. Not fictitious. It's an actual novel of fiction.

 |  Reply Share ›
- 




HappyB  • 19 hours ago


Thank you Captain Obvious.

7  | 1  Reply Share ›
- 

David  • 14 hours ago




This was my main issue (among others, though) with the movie "2012". Everything gets blown to bits, but a while later the clouds part and they go live in Africa? Whatever! Did you not just see that Yellowstone eruption? You're screwed, people!


3  |  Reply Share ›
- 

Trust me, I'm the Doctor  • 16 hours ago




"Where it would hit first"?


Can an asteroid hit the planet more than once?

1  |  Reply Share ›
- 




Tom J. McConnell  • 16 hours ago


If it's flat, and you throw it with the right spin, you can make it skip!!

1  |  Reply Share ›
- 

drummerdrums  • 16 hours ago

Who cares? You got his point though did you not? If you like correcting so much go be a teacher in a school. I heard they love to correct.

1  |  Reply Share ›
- 

Trust me, I'm the Doctor  • 16 hours ago

Who cares? I do. Is that good enough for you?

His moniker is Ahmed Khalil. I'm willing to bet that he doesn't have an education beyond what the Koran offers. In other words, no education.

You "heard" that teachers love to correct? Where did you hear this? Certainly not in school. Teachers don't "love to correct", they teach.

The best teachers are excellent listeners, they allow the students to teach each other in the spirit of cooperation and synergy. Kids learn more from their peers than they do from books or teachers.

Regardless, when I read something like this, I speak up. Maybe I am a teacher and maybe the world is my classroom. Have you learned anything from this?

^ | 1 v Reply Share ›

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